

but if the other is Robert Brown it is quite
unlike the engraving you have hanging in
your study -

I hope you have seen Clarence & made his
acquaintance -

I am nearly half asleep so I hope you
will excuse this hasty letter.

If I can give you any more information about
Dr. D. I shall be glad to, pray allow me to
assist you in any way possible. I suppose
you know he was very patriotic & deeply interested
in the war & for the soldiers. he failed very
rapidly after the fall he had two or three years
ago but the last time I saw him alive, in July
1861, he seemed as active in mind and
memory as ever & even to the last week of
his life took an interest in the letters of friends
which we always duly read to him -

With kind regards to Mrs. Gray
believe me very truly yours
Sabilla James.

Answer

Phil. May 6th 1863

My dear Dr. Gray

I received your kind
letter on Friday and should have answered it,
sooner, but have been much engaged in our
Sanitary Commission business, which is just
now quite engrossing, as I am Secretary of
the society belonging to St. Luke's church and
a delegate to the hance U.S. Commission estab-
lished in Philadelphia. I hope, by the way
that Mrs. Gray has been converted by the
success of the Commission, & that she now coun-
tenances it, if not I must send her all our
published documents, will not such a threat
bring her round, without the actual perusal?

I have written off for you some facts concerning
our lamented friend Dr. Darlington for you
to work up into your memoir, perhaps some
that will be useless for your purpose but I do
not know what you would like. I append
the list of prominent offices he has held to show

his wonderful industry, he was a "member of upwards of forty societies".

I feel very much gratified by your request that I should write a memoir of my old friend yet although Dr. Darlington repeatedly said to me that he wished no better biographer ~~than myself~~ I know my own incompetence for such a task and can only say how undeserved is the good opinion you have both so kindly expressed -

I think the autobiography would be quite interesting to Dr. Darlington's friends & admirers and leaving out some parts I do not know that there would be any objections to giving it to ^{the world} yet I will transcribe the opening page of the manuscript and ask for your opinion upon the subject of publication. as yet no eyes but my own have read it save Mr. James' and it is only within a few weeks that he has seen it.

"The writer of this singular manuscript prepared it for the purpose of amusing & gratifying the curiosity of his esteemed friend & correspondent. he consigns it to her personal custody & to the

most secluded apartment of her escriptorie; - relying implicitly upon her discreet & friendly regard to shield his egotism & other kindred infirmities from "the world's dread laugh" so long as he shall live; & pleasing himself with the idea that peradventure the confidential narrative may occasionally remind her of her aged friend when he shall be gathered to his fathers."

"For who to dumb forgetfulness a prey
This pleasing anxious being e'er resigned
Left the warm precincts of the cheerful day
Nor cast one longing, lingering look behind?"

Mr. James has been appointed by the Philosophical society to prepare a biographical notice of Dr. Darlington. I suppose yours in Selman's ground will come out before his in the Phil. trans. as you mention the July number. & Mr. Y. says the Philosophical meetings are so thickly attended in summer that he would have to read it to a small audience.

I am much obliged to you for the paper sent & the photographs I recognise Michaux